

Introduction to the Great Lakes Comprehensive Center at American Institutes for Research

Our Charge

The Great Lakes Comprehensive Center (GLCC) at American Institutes for Research (AIR) provides technical assistance to the state education agencies (SEAs) of Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. GLCC assistance is tailored to each state's individual needs and is aligned to the priorities of the U.S. Department of Education.

Technical Assistance Aligned to Federal Priorities

SEA leaders work with GLCC staff to develop an annual scope of work based on the following key initiatives identified in 2012 by the U.S. Department of Education:

- Implementing college- and career-ready standards and aligned assessments
- Identifying, recruiting, developing, and retaining great teachers and leaders
- Turning around the lowest performing schools
- Improving school readiness and transition in early childhood
- Preparing all students for college and career readiness and success
- Identifying and scaling up innovative, effective approaches to teaching and learning
- Using data-based decision making to improve instructional practices, policies, and student outcomes

GLCC collaborates with the **national content centers** (see sidebar) to connect SEAs with current research and high-quality resources related to these key initiatives.

National Content Centers

Building State Capacity and Productivity Center *at Edvance Research*

College and Career Readiness and Success Center *at American Institutes for Research*

Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes *at Rutgers University*

Center on Great Teachers and Leaders *at American Institutes for Research*

Center on Innovations in Learning *at Temple University*

Center on School Turnaround *at WestEd*

Center on Standards and Assessments Implementation *at WestEd*

Capacity Building

The work of GLCC focuses on building SEA capacity on the key initiatives. Capacity-building work includes supporting SEA efforts to:

- Use research-based knowledge to inform planning and decision making.
- Develop efficient organizational structures.
- Implement, support, scale up, and sustain key initiatives.
- Communicate effectively with stakeholders.
- Lead and support districts and schools.
- Connect and collaborate with external partners, including other states.

Our Team

GLCC is committed to applying the right combination of expertise to address individual state needs. The larger GLCC team includes content and technical assistance experts from across AIR and partner organizations. A state manager works directly with each of the SEAs to identify needs and to develop customized technical assistance plans.

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